loans will be granted and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Losses in Banks

7041. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the loss of colossal amount of money by the public sector banks through lending to non-credit-worthy individuals and corporate groups;

(b) if so, what is the extent of such losses;

(c) whether responsibility has been fixed for such losses;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a commission of inquiry to investigate into all acts of malfeasance by delinquent bank officials; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALBIR SINGH): (a) Banks being institutions, the possibility of certain advances turning sticky and thereby resulting in losses to the concerned banks is inherent in the system.

(b) The formats of balance sheet and profit & Loss account of banks,as set out in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, do not provide for such information.

(c) All irregularities are investigated and appropriate remedial action is taken wherever necessary.

(d) and (e). The existing systems and procedures obtaining in public sector banks with regard to scrutiny of affairs by internal inspectors, external statutory auditors as also RBI's periodic inspections are considered adequate. The Central Bureau of Investigation has also jurisdiction over the banks and investigate cases on the request of Government, Reserve Bank of India, banks and even suo-motto.

[Translation]

Expressway from Ahmedabad to Vadodara

7042. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Expressway project from Ahmedabad to Vadodara has been considerably delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount sanctioned for this project and the time by which it is scheduled to be completed;

(d) the cost overrun due to delay in the construction of this Expressway; and

(e) the measures taken so far to ensure early completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delay in execution of the project has been due to poor performance of the contractors.

(c) The original sanctioned cost was Rs. 137.20 crores and the work is presently scheduled for completion by December, 1994.

(d) The Revised Cost is yet to be assessed by the State Government.

(e) Major contractual problem have been resolved by the Government to enable contractors to expedite the progress.

[*English*]

Setting Up of Jute Goods Industry at Noida near Delhi

7043. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a modern factory for the manufacture of jute goods at Noida near Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Construction of a new Bridge on River Chhonda

7044. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old bridge on river Chhonda on National Highway in Morena district is in dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct a new bridge on this Highway and raise the level of this road till a new bridge is constructed there; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble member is referring to the old bridge across Assan River at Km 85/10 on NH 3 near Chonda village in Morena District. The existing bridge is old and weak. Construction of a new bridge including approaches is included in Annual plan 1991-92 for sanction subject to finalisation of the technical details.

Closure of Nationalised Cotton Mills in U.P

7045. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the some of the cotton mills in Uttar Pradesh which were nationalised during the last few years are lying closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the names and locations of such mills; and

(c) the details of losses suffered by these mills during 1988-89 and 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir. None of the mill nationalised by the Central Government and run by National Textile Corporation is lying closed in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Asian Development Bank Assistance for reconstruction of National Highways

7046. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Band has provided financial assistance for the reconstruction of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to allocate funds for reconstruction and widening of national Highways connecting Sikkim;